

Exhibit E



Deposition of:
David Kessler , M.D.

October 5, 2016

In the Matter of:
Clare-Austin vs. C.R. Bard

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1 trying to think. Obviously, you know, I have my medical
2 degree, have worked alongside in medical schools
3 with bioengineers, I've created departments of
4 bioengineering, in essence. So -- and FDA, a very big
5 part of FDA, the regulation of medical devices has to do
6 with engineers. So while I may have engineers in the
7 room, it's that interface with engineers and the safety
8 and efficacy that I have expertise in.

9 Q. I believe my question was do you have any
10 training in engineering?

11 MR. LOPEZ: I think he answered that, I think
12 he answered it.

13 MR. NORTH: I don't think he did. He supplied
14 his experience but no training.

15 THE WITNESS: So certainly in medical school,
16 bioengineering is an aspect of medical school training.

17 BY MR. NORTH:

18 Q. Other than taking a course in medical school on
19 biomedical engineering, have you taken any other formal
20 classes in engineering?

21 A. No, but I've -- you know, again, I've had
22 engineers work for me in assessing the safety and
23 efficacy of devices.

24 Q. Have you ever designed a medical device?

25 A. Actually, I have.

1 Q. Have you ever designed an implantable medical
2 device?

3 A. I regulated them, I assessed them, I take
4 the designs and determine whether they were either safe
5 and effective or substantially equivalent. So no,
6 usually I'm handed a design by somebody and then the
7 question is what -- how should I take those designs and
8 assess them for safety and efficacy or, you know,
9 substantial equivalence.

10 Q. So while you have assessed and analyzed designs
11 of medical devices, you have never personally designed
12 an implantable medical device; is that correct?

13 A. I've regulated, I think is the way to say that,
14 I regulated the design of medical devices.

15 Q. Have you designed one, though? I understand
16 you regulated one. Have you personally designed an
17 implantable medical device?

18 A. I don't believe from beginning to end I've done
19 the whole thing. We may have had certain meetings on
20 how things should have been designed at FDA, but no. We
21 take the designs and assess those designs for safety and
22 efficacy and substantial equivalence.

23 Q. When were you first retained to assist in this
24 litigation?

25 A. Retained is a, you know, a legal term. I can

1 Q. Dr. Kessler, we've now marked a copy of the
2 schedules to your report as Exhibit 6; is that correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Now, Schedule 1 involves a listing of all the
5 plaintiffs, at least as of some date, in this
6 litigation; correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You did not prepare that yourself, did you?

9 A. No. I think there's a footnote that tells you
10 exactly who prepared the schedules, I'm sure you've read
11 it. So if you look at my report, in the page on
12 schedules, it says "All schedules were prepared by staff
13 from legal counsel at my request and subject to my
14 review."

15 Q. And why did you want a list of all the
16 plaintiffs?

17 A. Because if you asked me who this report -- who
18 the plaintiffs are -- right? -- in this matter, I need
19 to be able to -- I mean, I thought I would want to be
20 able to answer that question. I mean, and so if you
21 want to know who this report was done in anticipation of
22 as part of the MDL in addition to Austin, I think that
23 was fair information.

24 Hopefully, everything in -- the goal in the
25 schedules is just to have objective information. If you

1 disagree with anything, let me know, happy to consider
2 it and fix it. It was just to make sure that you and
3 I -- that I had information available to me.

4 Q. In the list, the spreadsheet with the names of
5 the plaintiffs, for some of them there's a description
6 of the medical course or complication; correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you didn't prepare that yourself, did you?

9 A. No, I didn't. Again, I refer you to the
10 footnote on how it was prepared. My goal was -- I
11 didn't want to make people do more work, but I did ask
12 for a list of all the plaintiffs to which this report
13 would be -- could be applicable so we could know that.

14 Q. But you didn't revise any of those entries
15 about the medical condition or course, did you?

16 A. I didn't touch any of those and I make no
17 representation to that. And, again, if there's any
18 disagreement with any of those, I -- you know, let's
19 fix those. It's not essential, I just wanted the
20 plaintiffs' names.

21 Q. Let's look at Schedule 2, if we can.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Did you prepare -- did someone else prepare
24 that history and chronology for you?

25 A. Yes. And, again, please understand that I

1 specifically -- I prepared my report myself, that's
2 every word myself. These are factual things that others
3 have prepared specifically so if we want to know
4 something, I mean, it's available.

5 Q. Did you revise this yourself at all?

6 A. I don't think I -- I don't think so.

7 Q. Schedule 3 is a diagram of the predicate and
8 prior predicate devices. Did someone else prepare that?

9 A. Yes, but I actually -- I did -- I mean, I
10 wanted to get it right, so I did have more input on
11 this. For example, there were multiple SNFs, and so
12 when the first version came, it didn't have all the SNFs
13 and I sent it back, for example. Again, this should be,
14 again, objective facts that we should all be able to
15 agree on.

16 Q. Did you make any changes to the draft of this
17 other than to add the additional SNFs?

18 A. I wouldn't know how to do a chart like this.

19 Q. But, substantively, did you ask if there's
20 anything else?

21 A. I may have -- I also was aware there's multiple
22 G2s, so I wanted to make sure this was as complete and
23 comprehensive. So, if anything, I made sure -- let's
24 just make sure there's nothing left off this, that was
25 my goal, that was my contribution.

1 Q. But he's with one of the firms?

2 A. He's with a firm. I don't know who he was
3 with. Again, let me just be clear, these data should be
4 just a way, if we want to have a discussion, of quickly
5 access the data, I tried to get it in one place.

6 Q. But with these other schedules, who generally
7 prepared these; was it a single law firm or a number of
8 law firms, all these schedules?

9 A. There were different people prepared them, I
10 assume, I think at different firms.

11 Q. Okay. Prior to your involvement in this
12 litigation, had you ever reviewed any filter migration
13 testing before?

14 A. I don't re -- I'd have to go back to see what
15 we did at FDA. I have some recollection of non-vena
16 cava kind of filters, but I have to go back. It may
17 have been in a surgical context, but I have to go back.
18 It's been more than a decade.

19 Q. You don't recall that specifically, as you sit
20 here?

21 A. I remember getting involved in other programs,
22 I believe in a non-vena cava context, I'm pretty sure,
23 but I'd have to go back and check the records.

24 Q. Have you ever conducted any migration resistant
25 testing yourself?

1 BY MR. NORTH:

2 Q. Okay. Schedule 10, the list of names,
3 officials named in the report. Who prepared that for
4 you?

5 A. Actually, I don't know. This is just
6 specifically every time there was a memo or an email or
7 a report that was cited, I just wanted to have a list of
8 everyone's title to see who was cited.

9 Q. And so you did that yourself?

10 A. No, I don't know who did this. I did not do
11 this.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. Again, literally, it's just every name in my
14 report is in this list, again administrative.

15 Q. Schedule 11, deposition citations.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Do you know who prepared this?

18 A. Nicholas Graham.

19 Q. From Mr. Lopez's office?

20 A. Yes. So what -- you didn't ask me a question.

21 Q. Number 12, schedule, timeline of FDA and Bard
22 communications. Do you know who prepared this?

23 A. I don't recall. I have another log that I
24 guess was done by Bard. I don't know who did this one.

25 Q. Did you audit this one to see that it was

1 comprehensive or if it omitted anything?

2 A. So I actually -- there is another Bard list. I
3 have a Bard chronology -- happy to make it available --
4 that is more comprehensive on the years 2009, 2010, it's
5 an internal log. So I have a more comprehensive log, if
6 you'd like, but only for those years.

7 Most of the time a company has their own
8 internal logs, and that's what I was trying to find
9 here. I found it for 2009, 2010, but that was it.
10 That's the only thing I could find in the database,
11 so I have that available if you'd like to see it.

12 Q. My question is on Schedule 12, did you audit
13 Schedule 12 to see if it was a comprehensive list?

14 A. No, I didn't specifically. I would assume
15 there's no list that could be comprehensive and catch
16 every communication, unless the company specifically did
17 that realtime, and I don't have evidence -- I can't find
18 Bard's copy of it. I'd prefer Bard's copy of it if you
19 have it.

20 Q. Let's look at Schedule 13. Did you prepare
21 this?

22 A. No, I did not. This is just a -- the dates of
23 different filters.

24 Q. Do you know who prepared it?

25 A. I do not.

1 Q. With regard to schedule -- looking at Schedule
2 13 for a minute, have you ever -- well, let me ask you
3 this: Have you ever actually seen a recovery filter,
4 the actual device?

5 A. I don't think I've seen the actual device.

6 Q. Have you ever actually seen a G2 filter?

7 A. I don't think I -- I've seen it represented by
8 Bard in its documents and in their schematics, but they
9 didn't provide any to FDA as far as I know. I have what
10 was provided to FDA.

11 Q. Have you ever seen any actual filter by any
12 manufacturer?

13 A. I've reviewed the schematics of those. I have
14 the pictures and schematics that were provided to FDA,
15 and that's what -- we would not normally get the actual
16 device, we'd get the picture and schematics.

17 Q. So is the answer to my question that you have
18 not seen any actual filters as opposed to schematics?

19 A. I have no idea whether I've ever seen a filter
20 or a schematic.

21 Q. But you don't recall?

22 A. I don't recall whether I saw the schematics.

23 Q. Did you review any of the IFUs for the
24 Greenfield filter?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did you review the IFUs for the Birdsnest
2 filter?

3 A. I have several of the -- I'd have to
4 double-check. I certainly did Greenfield. I have
5 Cortus, Trapeze. I'd have to double-check on my file
6 whether I have Birdsnest. I certainly have a summary, I
7 believe I reviewed the 510(k) summary for that public
8 document. I'd have to go back and check if the IFU is
9 part of it.

10 Q. Did you make a comprehensive survey of all
11 competitive filter IFUs?

12 A. I tried to search -- I tried to search -- and,
13 again, I had access to the Bard database and I did with
14 regard to what was provided in the Bard database, and in
15 addition, I have, I think, a comprehensive list of the
16 510(k) summary basis for clearance that FDA has made
17 public.

18 Q. And who went and obtained those summaries from
19 the public FDA records for you?

20 A. I asked Wendy to help me make sure -- I mean, I
21 may have had some to make sure that I had everything
22 that was on the FDA website that was available.

23 Q. Did you do any independent review of the MAUDE
24 database on the FDA website for your work in this case?

25 A. Yes, I've searched the MAUDE database. But

1 I've realized -- well, I've gone to the MAUDE database
2 and looked at Bard's adverse reports both for
3 malfunction and serious injury. What I've done is
4 I relied more -- I mean, you can't print out the entire
5 database. What I've done is look at the entire database
6 that Bard has on MAUDE, rather than what MAUDE has on
7 MAUDE because it's harder to print it off. You can only
8 print it off by ten or 25, and yet I have thousands in
9 the database.

10 Q. Schedule 14 is a summary of Bard communications
11 to doctors. Who prepared that for you?

12 A. Bard, in essence. I mean, all this is is the
13 actual -- these are Bard letters, so these are the
14 actual letters of dear doctor behind you, so these are
15 Bard documents.

16 Q. Exhibit or Schedule 15 is a list of
17 alternatives to IVC filters; is that correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And who prepared that for you?

20 A. That was -- I don't know the name of the
21 individual. Again, this was, you know, sort of standard
22 textbook of -- you know, for how to deal with VTEs, it
23 should be just objective textbook data.

24 Q. But somebody else and not you chose which
25 things to put in this file?

1 A. Well, you could save -- well, no -- well, the
2 goal was, again, to be as comprehensive. If you have
3 other alternatives that are not in this chart, let's put
4 'em on this chart. I just want to have a comprehensive
5 database. These are database kinds of schedules so we
6 have the data. There was no intent to limit anything.
7 In fact, the whole goal is if you and I want to talk
8 about this question, we would have it all in front of
9 us to make sure we would have the data. So, again,
10 there is -- there should be no limiting; right? This
11 is meant to be within the confines of what's humanly
12 possible to be comprehensive.

13 Q. That was not my question. It's very simple:
14 You yourself did not choose which ones would be put on
15 here, someone else that prepared this chose what would
16 be on here; correct?

17 A. No. Someone chose per my direction to be
18 comprehensive and make sure that we listed the
19 comprehensible alternative therapies, so they were
20 acting under those instructions. Whether they did that
21 or not, we can discuss, but as best I can see, it's
22 pretty comprehensive, it may not be perfect.

23 Q. Schedule 16 is simply a listing of the two
24 public health notifications from the FDA; correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Schedule 17 appears to be a summary of
2 citations from the SIR guidelines; is that correct?

3 A. It is a -- it's more specific. For every
4 article mentioned, this is a listing of what filter the
5 article covers, so it's a very specific -- it's a very
6 specific listing.

7 Q. Who prepared this for you?

8 A. I don't -- I don't recall specifically. Again,
9 it's just per each footnote, it discusses -- it just
10 lists what filter was in each footnote.

11 Q. Schedule 18 attempts to identify relationships
12 between SIR guidelines, authors, and IVC filter
13 companies; is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And what's the purpose of this?

16 A. Well, this is just, again, based on a database,
17 on Bard's database, was there anyone on the SIR article
18 or acknowledgments that are listed as the authors and
19 what their relationship, if any, with Bard, so that's
20 just to have that and the citation so we can find them.

21 Q. Dr. Clemick Grassi, which guidelines was he the
22 author of?

23 A. So certainly 2003, I'd have to go back and
24 check the updates on that. I have them here.

25 Q. Do you know whether doctor Grassi had any

1 relationship with Bard in 2003 when the guidelines were
2 published?

3 A. I mean, this is, again -- this is the --
4 what I've been able to ascertain is what's cited in
5 footnote 1.

6 Q. Cited in what, I'm sorry?

7 MR. LOPEZ: Footnote 1.

8 THE WITNESS: I mean, so he -- I have -- and we
9 can go and we can pull it up -- I have a -- in doctor
10 Grassi's deposition what he states about his
11 relationship unrelated to his deposition.

12 BY MR. NORTH:

13 Q. So as you sit here today, you don't have a
14 recollection whether he worked with Bard at the time he
15 did those guidelines, do you?

16 A. I have only the two citations and testimony. I
17 don't have -- I don't believe -- I have to go back and
18 check the transcript -- happy to do that -- and see
19 whether he's testified -- sorry, if he's testified on
20 dates. I don't recall that.

21 Q. Schedule 19 is a compilation of deaths
22 purportedly related to the filters; correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Who prepared this for you?

25 A. I don't remember who prepared it, but I was

1 going through deaths as I was looking at this, and you
2 can see them on the timeline. I don't know who actually
3 put these together, but they were basically to search
4 the database for any deaths that were associated with
5 Recovery and G2 and Eclipse, again in the database, to
6 search the database for specific report of death.

7 Q. Is it your opinion that each of these instances
8 reflected in Schedule 19 presents a situation where the
9 filter was a causative factor in the death?

10 A. This is only a list of deaths that Bard related
11 to be associated with the filter. I'm not here as a
12 causation expert.

13 Q. So just because these incidents are listed does
14 not mean necessarily that the filter was the cause or a
15 cause of the death?

16 A. You have to talk to other -- I'm not here as a
17 causation expert. This is just, for regulatory
18 purposes, obviously the number of deaths and what was
19 going on was important.

20 Q. Schedule 20 is a summary of fatigue resistance
21 testing. Do you know who prepared that for you?

22 A. I believe Richard did, the same Richard, the
23 engineer who prepared the -- you know, so he was able
24 to, you know, go through the testing results and just
25 put the testing results down.

1 Q. Did you make any revisions to that?

2 A. No. There wasn't -- I mean, I went through
3 these. There didn't seem to be any need to do that. I
4 reviewed them.

5 Q. Schedule 21 is a summary or just an itemization
6 of the 483 and FDA warning communications; correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Who prepared this for you?

9 A. So I believe Laura Smith prepared this, if I'm
10 correct.

11 Q. She's from the same firm as Ms. Saic; correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Schedule 22, corrosion test results of the
14 modified recovery filter by CC Technologies. This is
15 just a test report; correct?

16 A. Yes, because it's cited in the report and CDC
17 schedule.

18 Q. Schedule 24, comparative corrosion results with
19 other competitive filters. Was this prepared by that
20 same engineering paralegal you referenced?

21 A. I'm not sure. It's possible not. I don't
22 recall. Again, these are just Bard's corrosion testing
23 that had anything to do with other filters too.

24 Q. Did you make any revisions to Schedule 24?

25 A. No, but I reviewed it and found it to be

1 complete.

2 Q. Oh, I think we skipped 23. 23 are just some
3 photo micrographs; correct?

4 A. On corrosion, yes, that's from the CC
5 Technologies report.

6 Q. 25 is a summary of testimony concerning the
7 signature on the recovery filter 510(k); is that
8 correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Who prepared this for you?

11 A. I don't recall who prepared this. It may have
12 been Shelley Blas who did this.

13 Q. And remind me again who she is?

14 A. In Howard Nations firm.

15 Q. Did you read the deposition of Kate Fuller?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you read the deposition of Carol Vierling?

18 A. Kay Fuller and Mary Edwards. I'm not sure I
19 read all; I certainly went through it. Hold on a
20 second. Let me just check my records and see what I can
21 recall to answer your question.

22 So -- let me be accurate. I have to go back,
23 I've got to go back and double-check that. I'm not
24 pulling it up because I have a lot of depositions only
25 by their Bates numbers so I can't tell. I'd have to go

1 back and review that. I can do that at lunch, if you
2 want.

3 Q. As you sit here today, do you recall who signed
4 the -- let me ask you this: 510(k) applications have a
5 certification of accuracy of some sort; correct?

6 A. Several different parts of a 510(k). There's
7 multiple signature lines at different points in the
8 510(k).

9 Q. Do you know who signed those various
10 certifications in the 510(k) for recovery filter?

11 A. The actual -- show me the page that you're
12 referring to specifically because there's multiple
13 signature lines; right? And there's also, as I
14 remember -- and I have to go back and review -- there
15 was a library copy and there's a copy submitted to FDA,
16 and I will simply put -- I'd have to review exactly
17 which page you're talking about, so let's pull the
18 document.

19 Q. So as you're sitting here right now, you cannot
20 tell me, without looking at the document, who actually
21 signed the certification on the 510(k)?

22 A. I'd want to check and pull the document and,
23 again, which copy you're talking about, because I think
24 there were two copies, if my memory serves me right,
25 there was a library copy and there was a copy submitted

1 to FDA, so we'd have to pull both copies.

2 Q. Number 26 is Dr. Betensky's expert report that
3 you reference; correct?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And this is dated August 28th of 2016?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And since you haven't read her deposition,
8 you're not able to tell us whether this report is
9 consistent or inconsistent with her deposition, are you?

10 A. I have to go back and double-check whether I
11 read her -- I think my answer was I have to go back and
12 check whether I read her deposition.

13 Q. Number 27, Schedule 27 is simply the
14 spreadsheet from Dr. Betensky; correct?

15 A. Exactly.

16 Q. What is Schedule 28?

17 A. So this is a listing which meant to be of
18 documents -- of times when Bard used comparative adverse
19 event data, so in Bard's document, whether they compared
20 adverse reporting rates of their filters versus another
21 filter. So I was looking for their use of that
22 methodology.

23 Q. Who prepared Schedule 28 for you?

24 A. I think it was someone at Mr. Lopez's shop. I
25 don't know who did it. But it's basically -- they

1 should be primarily from my report.

2 Q. Did you make any revisions to Schedule 28?

3 A. I looked at it, saw that it was complete, and I
4 didn't think there was any need to be -- again, it tries
5 to put in one place that aspect, those things in my
6 report.

7 Q. Schedule 29, who prepared this?

8 A. Shelley Blas. This is just a listing of the
9 preclinical testing that was cited in the 510-Ks.
10 Again, an administrative compilation of all the
11 preclinical testing that's cited in the 510(k) so if we
12 wanted to be able to find a study, a preclinical study,
13 we have that list.

14 Q. And did you make any changes to that?

15 A. Yes. There was one, the last page. It wasn't
16 clear whether that was in the testing applied to
17 Recovery or G2, so I asked them to make that clearer.

18 Q. Do you know any of the Bard present or former
19 employees whose names you saw referenced in the various
20 documents?

21 A. Have I met them personally, are you asking me?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. You know, you read so many documents you feel
24 like you know them. So I don't think I know them. I'm
25 not saying I've never met them; I mean as FDA

1 Q. Were the test reports that you are relying on
2 saying that Bard did not meet its own specifications for
3 migration resistance and/or caudal migration, were those
4 premarket or post-market tests?

5 A. The migration resistance, the change in the
6 acceptance criteria, I believe, was premarket of the G2,
7 again modified G2, there are multiple ones. The caudal
8 migration test, I believe, was November 27th, 2006, so
9 I believe that was post is my memory, but the initial
10 migration tests, Bard failed compared to SNF and then
11 changed the standard was premarket.

12 Q. You have told us why you believe the G2 was
13 adulterated. Do you believe the G2 was misbranded?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. In what way?

16 A. Well, because the IFU -- if you turn in my
17 report, if you look at the IFU, the IFU simply talks
18 about migration as, for example, being as with all
19 filters. There's nothing in the IFU for G2 that points
20 out that it failed on caudal migration, there's nothing
21 in there that shows there's increased risk of migration
22 compared to SNF. So it's certainly misleading because
23 it makes -- the IFU makes it sound like this is all
24 filters, when clearly there's evidence of increased
25 risk.

1 but I certainly probably have looked at IFUs when they
2 come to companies that I've been involved in, but I
3 normally don't draft them, but I certainly was
4 responsible for deciding whether IFUs were
5 misleading or not.

6 Q. But you personally, as I understand it, have
7 not drafted an IFU, whether at the FDA or elsewhere?

8 A. No. But I reviewed them and regulated them and
9 decided whether they were in compliance with the Act.

10 Q. Is it your opinion that Bard should have
11 recalled the G2 filter at any time?

12 A. Should have never been on the market.

13 Q. Well, assuming that it was on the market, as it
14 was introduced to the market, should it have been
15 recalled at some point?

16 A. It should have never been on the market because
17 it didn't have a legally based predicate because RNF
18 shouldn't have been on the market, and certainly when it
19 became adulterated on November 2006, it should have
20 been -- when you fail the caudal migration, which was
21 the -- again, the rationale for substantial equivalence,
22 these things didn't migrate. Once you find that it
23 didn't meet its performance test, I mean, you either
24 either fix it or take it off the market. That's the
25 basis of adulteration.

1 Q. There were incidents of caudal migration in the
2 Everest study; correct?

3 A. Sure, that's correct.

4 Q. And the Everest study was provided to the FDA,
5 wasn't it?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. And the data and report of the caudal
8 migrations in the Everest study were disclosed to the
9 FDA?

10 A. That's correct. But the failure to meet the
11 performance spec in the representation that Bard made to
12 FDA was not disclosed to FDA. So G2 was worse than RNF,
13 it was worse than SNF, it failed on the performance
14 spec. That was never -- the basis of substantial
15 equivalence was basically undercut by that test.
16 That was never disclosed to FDA.

17 Q. Do you know whether physicians generally that
18 work with filters consider caudal migration to be a
19 significant problem?

20 A. So I believe that -- hold on a second. Let me
21 just -- give me one second to answer that. So let's go
22 to Dr. Ciavarella's own words, he's certainly a
23 physician, he certainly works with filters, and he
24 certainly is, I would assume, knowledgeable.

25 So if you look at his February 9, 2006, he